Case 3:07-cv-06205-TEH Document 45

Filed 08/05/2008

Page 1 of 10

1. Jurisdiction.

Plaintiff:

All named parties are purportedly subject to the Court's jurisdiction pursuant to Title 28 of the United States Code Sections 1331 and 1343. There are no issues with respect to service on or personal jurisdiction over the named defendants. Venue is not an issue. Plaintiff filed his First Amended Complaint on April 4, 2008, which Defendants answered.

ADS Defendants:

See City Defendants, infra.

City Defendants:

All named parties are purportedly subject to the Court's jurisdiction pursuant to Title 28 of the United States Code Sections 1331 and 1343. Defendants City of Hayward ("City"), Art Thoms, Scott Lunger, and Zachary Hoyer (collectively "City defendants") filed a motion to dismiss all state claims. Pursuant to a stipulation and Court Order all state claims plead against City defendants were dismissed with prejudice. City defendants filed an answer in response to plaintiff's remaining federal claims. Defendants American Discount Security and David Wardak (collectively "ADS defendants") filed a motion to dismiss all claims. The Court granted the motion in part, and denied it in part. The Court ordered plaintiff to file an amended complaint.

2. Substance of Action.

Plaintiff's Claim:

In the nighttime hours of December 9, 2005, Plaintiff, Kevin Walker and his friend, Jerry Walker, both African-American males, went to the *Jack in the Box* restaurant at 1075 W.

Tennyson Road in the City of Hayward, California. Plaintiff and Jerry Walker were denied entry by Defendant Daud Wardak, a security guard. The restaurant drive-thru window was open for business at the time Plaintiff and Jerry Walker were denied entry. Plaintiff and Jerry Walker left the front entrance to the restaurant and waited for their ride to arrive.

As Plaintiff was waiting with Jerry Walker, Defendant Wardak contacted the Hayward

15 16

17

18

19 20

21

23

22

24 25

26 27 Police Department and made a false report that three or four black males were causing a disturbance in the parking lot of the Jack in the Box restaurant. Officers Thoms and Lunger of the Special Duty Unit of the Hayward Police Department responded.

When Officers Lunger and Thoms arrived on scene, Defendant Wardak directed the officers to Plaintiff and Jerry Walker, and wanted the officers to arrest them both for trespassing. The officers did not conduct an independent investigation into the matter. The officers did not ask either Plaintiff or Jerry Walker why they were in the area and did not advise them to leave the area. Instead, the officers arrested Plaintiff and Jerry Walker. The officers assaulted and battered Plaintiff. Plaintiff was taken to St. Rose Hospital in Hayward for medical treatment after he was booked at the Hayward Police Department jail.

After Plaintiff's arrest, Defendant Wardak signed a written statement, apparently authored by Officer Snell, stating, inter alia, that he summoned the police and arrested Plaintiff and Jerry Walker for trespassing on Jack in the Box property. Defendant Wardak was identified as a witness in the incident reports authored by Defendant police officers.

On or about December 12, 2005, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office filed misdemeanor criminal charges against Plaintiff alleging violations of California Penal Code Section 69 - Resisting a Peace Officer, Section 647(f)-Public Intoxication, and Section 12020(a)(4)-Carrying a Dirk or Dagger. The so-called dirk/dagger was a small box cutter issued to Plaintiff by his employer with the employer's business information imprinted on it. Plaintiff's case was tried before a jury in Alameda County in or around June 2007. Defendants Thoms and Wardak testified on behalf of the prosecution. On or about June 15, 2007, the jury returned its verdict acquitting Plaintiff of all charges.

ADS Defendants' Claim:

ADS is a private security company, which provided unarmed security services to the Jack-in-the-Box, located at 1075 Tennyson Boulevard in Hayward, where the altercation between

9

19

Plaintiff and HPD officers occurred. Wardak was the ADS supervisor who was conducting a routine post check with the Jack-in-the Box manager at the time in question, and was the person who initially called HPD to report a disturbance involving Plaintiff and two other individuals.

On December 9, 2005, the Jack-in-the-Box restaurant closed at 10:00 p.m., while the drive-thru window remained open for business. The ADS security guard on duty was Bakhtawar Sing. At approximately 11:00 p.m., ADS supervisor, Wardak, arrived at the Jack-in-the Box location for a routine post check and to discuss ADS' services with the Jack-in-the Box manager. After Wardak went inside Jack-in-the-Box, three males began knocking on the door to the restaurant, and were asking Wardak to open the locked door. Both Wardak and Sing explained to the males (approximately 10 times) that the restaurant was closed. However, the three males continued to pound on the doors and windows and curse at the Jack-in-the Box staff.

The males' behavior appeared hostile and violent. Wardak warned the males that he would call the police if they did not stop their hostile behavior. When the males continued with their hostile behavior, and continued to create a disturbance, the Jack-in-the-Box manager asked Wardak to call the police.

Once HPD officers arrived, Wardak merely pointed out the males who were causing the disturbance. One of the males left the premises by the time HPD officers arrived, but two of them remained, one of whom was Plaintiff. None of ADS' employees had any further contact with Plaintiff once HPD officers arrived. The physical altercation that subsequently ensued involved only the two males and HPD officers. However, Wardak was a witness to the events, and observed that Plaintiff was refusing to comply with the officers' efforts to investigate the

5

6 7

8 9

11

10

12 13

14 15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25

26

27

situation. Plaintiff had his hands in his pockets and was refusing to remove his hands from his pockets upon the officers' multiple requests.

City Defendants' Claim:

On December 9, 2005, at approximately 11 p.m., Kevin Walker ("Kevin") and Jerry Walker ("Jerry") trespassed at a Jack-in-the-Box, which was closed to pedestrian business. After Kevin was repeatedly directed to leave the premises by American Discount Security ("ADS") personnel, Kevin banged on the windows of the location, verbally abused Security personnel, and attempted to place an order from the drive-in window. Security personnel contacted the Hayward Police Department ("HPD") for a response. HPD officers attempted to detain the Walkers for investigation. The Walkers failed to comply with officer commands. Kevin refused to take his hand out of his pants pocket. Kevin physically resisted efforts to detain him. HPD officers used reasonable force to overcome Kevin physical resistance. Ultimately, Security personnel effected a citizen's arrest for trespass. HPD located an open box cutter in Kevin's pants pocket. HPD charged Kevin with resisting arrest, and possession of a dirk or dagger, inter alia. Jerry plead to the trespass charge. On June 2007, Kevin was acquitted at jury trial.

City defendants assert that the involved officers utilized reasonable force in their selfdefense and to effectuate the detention and arrest of Walker. Moreover, defendants further assert that they are entitled to qualified immunity, inter alia.

Identification of Issues. 3.

Plaintiff claims that Defendants violated his civil rights pursuant to 42 **Plaintiff:** U.S.C. § 1983 and that section 1983 liability extends to Defendants ADS and Wardak (collectively "ADS defendants") under a joint action theory. Plaintiff contends that defendants

1617

18

19

2021

2223

24

25

2627

4. Narrov

ADS Defen

did not have legal justification to detain or arrest him and defendants used excessive force in arresting him. Plaintiff has also asserted numerous pendent state law causes of action against ADS Defendants.

ADS Defendants: The principal issues in dispute are:

- a. Whether Wardak was acting under "color of law".
- b. Whether the decision to prosecute Kevin for resisting a peace officer,
 public intoxication and carrying a dirk and dagger can be attributed to
 Wardak and ADS, for purposes of Plaintiff's malicious prosecution and
 abuse of process claims.
- c. Whether Wardak's conduct in summoning the police under the circumstances was reasonable.
- d. Whether Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages.
- e. Whether Wardak's actions can be considered a violation of Civil Code, Section 43.

<u>City Defendants</u>: The principal issues in dispute are the following: whether probable cause existed for the arrest; whether the force used by the defendant police officers was reasonable; whether defendant police officers are entitled to qualified immunity; whether plaintiff's damages were caused by City defendants' action; whether plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive damages.

4. Narrowing of Issues.

ADS Defendants: Same as above.

That probable cause existed for the arrest; that the force used by the **City Defendants:** defendant police officers, if any, was reasonable; that defendant police officers are entitled to qualified immunity; that plaintiff's damages were caused by City defendants' action; that plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive damages.

Motions 5.

Plaintiff: Not applicable.

Absent agreement, dispositive motion regarding above issues. **ADS Defendants:**

City Defendants: Absent agreement, dispositive motion regarding above issues.

- 6. Relief. Plaintiff prays for the following damages according to proof: general damages, special damages, punitive damages, statutory damages, and penalties.
 - Evidence Preservation/Disclosures/Discovery.

Plaintiff: Plaintiff believes that the surveillance cameras installed in the premises of Jack in the Box at the time of the incident may have recorded the encounter between Plaintiff and defendants. Plaintiff also believes that HPD may be in possession of evidence seized from Plaintiff and evidence developed thereafter for purposes of Plaintiff's criminal prosecution. Additionally, Plaintiff is informed and believes that there are numerous documents, including dispatch tapes and logs, and electronic and paper documents relevant to Plaintiff's case or likely to lead to the discovery of relevant evidence in the custody and control of defendants.

- a. Disclosures. The parties plan to comply with the Court imposed deadline for initial disclosures.
- **b. Discovery.** Discovery has not commenced as yet. The parties anticipate conducting discovery as per the protocol defined in the FRCP. Given the number of Defendants

6

13 14

15 16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

in the lawsuit, Plaintiff anticipates taking a total of twenty (20) depositions. The parties also anticipate serving written discovery including but not limited to interrogatories, request for production of documents, request for admissions, and subpoena duces tecum prior to the discovery cut-off date. The deadline for expert witness discovery will be as set forth in FRCP Rule 26.

ADS Defendants: See City defendants, infra.

Defendants complied with the Court imposed deadline for initial **City Defendants:** disclosures. Defendants anticipate conducting discovery as per the protocol defined in the FRCP including taking the depositions of all parties, and third party witnesses. In the event that the number of witnesses to be deposed exceeds the maximum under the FRCP, defendants shall seek relief from the Court. In this regard, if the Court grants plaintiff leave to conduct depositions in excess of the FRCP protocol, in the interests of fairness, defendants respectfully request that they also be granted similar leave to conduct depositions in excess of the FRCP. Defendants also anticipate serving written discovery including but not limited to interrogatories, request for production of documents, request for admissions, and subpoena duces tecum prior to the nonexpert discovery cut-off date.

- ADR. The parties stipulated to early mediation pursuant to the Court's ADR program. The parties completed a two hours session with the mediator but suspended further proceedings until some discovery is completed. At that time, the parties plan to resume mediation.
 - Trial. The parties anticipate a ten-day trial, including jury selection.
 - 10. Related Cases. None.
 - 11. Proposed Schedule:

Plaintiff proposes the following discovery schedule: **Plaintiff:**

A trial date in early September 2009.

Exchange of witness lists and trial exhibits 30 days before the trial date.